

Date Mailed September 5, 2003
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BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Wisconsin Public Service Corporation for  
Declaratory Ruling Regarding Planning and Development of  
Weston 4 Base Load Coal Electric Generating Facility

6690-DR-107

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

**Stipulation but if part or no  
Stipulation, Direct Testimony  
Due:**

**Thursday, September 18, 2003 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Rebuttal Testimony Due:**

**Tuesday, September 23, 2003 – 4:30 p.m.**

**Hearing Date:**

**Thursday, September 25, 2003 – 10:00 a.m.**

**Hearing Location:**

**Public Service Commission, 610 North Whitney Way,  
Madison, WI(Amnicon Falls Hearing Room – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor)**

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that a hearing will be held beginning on Thursday, September 25, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in the Amnicon Falls Hearing Room at the Public Service Commission Building, 610 North Whitney Way, Madison, Wisconsin, and continuing at times to be set by the presiding Administrative Law Judge. This building is accessible to people in wheelchairs through the Whitney Way first floor (lobby) entrance. Parking for people with disabilities is available on the south side of the building. Any person with a disability who needs additional accommodations should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

This is a Class 1 proceeding as defined in Wis. Stat. § 227.01(3)(a).

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the docket coordinator listed below.

The issues for hearing are the following:

1. Is it prudent for Wisconsin Public Service Corporation (“WPSC”) to proceed with the planning and development of Weston 4 in order to ensure an in-service date by the 2008 summer peak demand season?

2. Is it prudent for WPSC, in the planning and development of Weston 4, to incur up to \$7.5 million (year of occurrence dollars) in pre-certification expenses and \$64 million (year of occurrence dollars, exclusive of carrying costs) in pre-construction costs before certification, assuming completion of CPCN proceedings by October 31, 2004. Should these amounts be subject to adjustment if the CPCN proceedings are completed at a later date?

3. Should the Commission authorize WPSC to record its pre-construction costs incurred during the pre-certification period as Construction Work in Progress ("CWIP") in Account 107 of the Uniform System of Accounts, and to earn a current return at WPSC's overall cost of capital on the CWIP balance associated with Weston 4 beginning in 2004? Should the reasonableness of the amount of actual pre-construction costs recoverable by WPSC in its retail rates, and the appropriate method and timing of rate recovery, be determined in the appropriate WPSC rate cases?

4. If the Commission issues a CPCN and other approvals as may be required for Weston 4, and the unit is placed into service, should the Commission authorize WPSC to transfer to rate base the Commission-approved CWIP balance associated with Weston 4?

5. If the Commission does not issue the required approvals for Weston 4, or Weston 4 is not otherwise placed into service, may WPSC seek rate recovery for its pre-certification expenses and pre-construction costs incurred in the pre-certification period, to the extent they are reasonable and not of the type normally excluded for ratemaking purposes?

If it is determined that a formal hearing is not necessary due to stipulations, a telephone conference will be held at the same time as the Hearing Date with details to follow.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to docket coordinator Candice Spanjar at (608) 267-9537 or [candice.spanjar@psc.state.wi.us](mailto:candice.spanjar@psc.state.wi.us).

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Kevin B. Cronin  
Administrative Law Judge

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